



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Philip O. Gerard
For : WINDOW FRAME WITH BOTH TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT CONNECTIONS

BOX PATENT APPLICATION.

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, before the first sentence, add the following paragraph:

--This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/412,763, filed October 1, 1999 (abandoned).--.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2 and 8.

Please rewrite claims 1, 3, 7, 13 and 18 as indicated below. A version marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous revision of the amended claims is at Appendix A.

-1- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

a second frame half having a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane;

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first connector means for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves when said second frame half is in the ship orientation, said first connector means being integral with said first and second frame halves; and

second connector means for securely interconnecting said first and second frame halves only when said second frame half is in the install orientation said second connector means also being integral with said first and second frame halves.

Claim 3, line 1, after "claim" insert --1--

-7- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

a second frame half including a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship orientation and the install orientation by turning said second frame half within its own plane;

first connector means unitary with said first and second frame halves for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves; and

second connector means unitary with said first and second frame halves for securely interconnecting said first and second frame halves, said second connector means operative only when said second frame half is in the install orientation.

-13- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

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a first frame half including a plurality of barbs monolithically formed with said first frame half; and

a second frame half including a plurality of receivers monolithically formed with said second frame half, said second frame half having both a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane, each of said receivers receiving one of said barbs only when said second frame half is in the install orientation to securely interconnect said first and second frame halves.

-18- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

a. second frame half having a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being interchangeable between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane;

first connector means for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves when the second frame half is in the ship orientation, said first connector means including first and second portions monolithically formed with said first and second frame halves, respectively; and

second connector means for essentially permanently interconnecting said first and second frame halves only when said second frame half is in the install orientation, said second connector means being inoperative when said second frame half is in the ship orientation, said

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second connector means including first and second portions monolithically formed with said first and second frame halves, respectively.

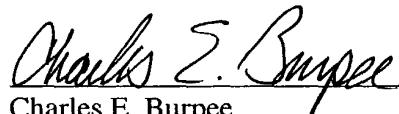
REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-19 remain in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this Preliminary Amendment when examining this application.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP O. GERARD

By: Warner Norcross & Judd LLP



Charles E. Burpee
Registration No. 29 776
900 Fifth Third Center
111 Lyon Street, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2489
(616) 752-2141

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APPENDIX A

A Version Marked Up To Show All The Changes Relative To The Previous Revision

-1- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

a second frame half [that may be positioned in either] having a ship orientation [or] and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane;

first connector means for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves when said second frame half is in [either] the ship orientation [or the install orientation], said first connector means being integral with said first and second frame halves; and

second connector means for securely interconnecting said first and second frame halves only when said second frame half is in the install orientation said second connector means also being integral with said first and second frame halves.

- 3 - (Amended)

A window frame as described in claim 1 wherein said first and second frame halves are identical to one another.

-7- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

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a second frame half including a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship orientation and the install orientation by turning said second frame half within its own plane;

first connector means [integral] unitary with [at least one of] said first and second frame halves for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves; and

second connector means [integral] unitary with [at least one of] said first and second frame halves for securely interconnecting said first and second frame halves, said second connector means operative only when said second frame half is in the install orientation.

-13- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half including a plurality of barbs [integrally] monolithically formed with said first frame half; and

a second frame half including a plurality of receivers [integrally] monolithically formed with said second frame half, said second frame half having both a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being moved between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane, each of said receivers receiving one of said barbs only when said second frame half is in the install orientation to securely interconnect said first and second frame halves.

-18- (Amended)

A window frame comprising:

a first frame half;

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a second frame half having a ship orientation and an install orientation with respect to said first frame half, said second frame half being interchangeable between the ship and install orientations by rotating said second frame half within its own plane;

first connector means for releasably interconnecting said first and second frame halves when the second frame half is in [either] the ship orientation [or the install orientation], said first connector means including first and second portions [integrally] monolithically formed with said first and second frame halves, respectively; and

second connector means for essentially permanently interconnecting said first and second frame halves only when said second frame half is in the install orientation, said second connector means being inoperative when said second frame half is in the ship orientation, said second connector means including first and second portions [integrally] monolithically formed with said first and second frame halves, respectively.